



**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**
BRIGHT FROM THE START



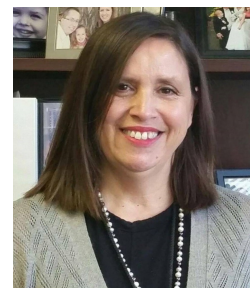
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Child Care Services Summer 2021 Newsletter

Dear Child Care Providers,

We're entering the home stretch of being able to get back to normal operations! Thanks so much for your patience, your flexibility, and your cooperation. The good news is field trips are back!

The Governor's new Executive Order dated June 15, 2021, removes all transportation restrictions regarding field trips in child care programs. Therefore, field trips are no longer prohibited. Additionally, the Order removed the social distancing restriction, so classes can be combined, and playground and mealtime spaces may now be shared.



Please note that as of July 1, 2021, child care providers must allow access to their programs to custodial parents. You have the option to require masks and to do health screenings for family members entering your facilities. Visit the Department of Early Care and Learning's (DECAL) website at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/BFTS/Covid19.aspx> to view the most recent Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) regarding the newest Order. Thank you for all you have done over the past year to make child care safe for children and families. Have a great summer!

Take care,

Pam Stevens

Pam Stevens
Deputy Commissioner for Child Care Services

LOOK AGAIN 2021



Each year, the Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) joins the Governor and several state agencies in calling for families and caregivers of children to have a heightened awareness of the dangers of leaving children unattended in vehicles. We have produced the public service announcement shown below to help raise awareness and prevent heatstroke deaths of children year round, but especially during the hot summer months.

[Click to Learn More](#)



COVID-19 is Making Children Anxious: What can Caregivers do to Help?

Article by Jessica Bartlett, Ph.D.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a stressful time for everyone. This is especially true for children, who are more vulnerable to the emotional impact of traumatic events that disrupt their daily lives. Some children may be more irritable or clingy, and some may regress and demand extra attention. Developmental scientist, Jessica Bartlett, Ph.D., suggests that caregivers support children's physical and emotional health by practicing the three R's: routines, regulation and reassurance.



[Click Here to Read Article](#)

Resources to Engage Youth & Support Learning

Information Compiled by [Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network](#)



Summer is here and youth development professionals, families, and caregivers are wondering how best to support kids in learning. Georgia Public Broadcasting has compiled FREE digital media & content for GA's educators, students, and families.

Getting Ready for K-3 Guides

As part of [Georgia Home Classroom](#), the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) has identified key skills for children getting ready for kindergarten through third grade. These skills will help families understand what children have already learned and can expect to learn when they get back to school. [The guides are available in English and Spanish](#) and can be a great resource for summer learning providers, particularly as they explore how they can help accelerate and support student learning.

Let's Learn GA!

[Let's Learn GA!](#) is a series of video lessons for grades K-5 taught by Georgia teachers and aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence. The lessons cover English language arts, fine arts, mathematics, physical health and wellness, science, and social studies.

Get Georgia Reading Getting Ready Guides

[The Get Georgia Reading Getting Ready Guides](#) are full of activities for families and caregivers to do with early learners. These contain many examples of simple, fun activities that can help them begin building skills for K-3. Great activities to use in your program or to provide families to support learning at home! No special resources are required!

FREE Upcoming Virtual Core Rules Refresher Trainings

The following trainings are FREE and will be conducted using [ZOOM](#) meetings. All participants must register for the trainings through the [Georgia Professional Development System \(GaPDS\)](#). Once registered, a link will be sent to your email to join the training via webinar.

Family Child Care Learning Home Core Rules Refresher Trainings 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Thursday, August 26, 2021

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Child Care Learning Center Core Rules Refresher Trainings 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Tuesday, August 7, 2021

Thursday, September 23, 2021

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Questions? Please email ccs.ta@dec.al.ga.gov or call (770)344-5891

[Register Now!](#)

Save the Date: The 2021 Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development Conference

The 2021 Georgia ASYD
Conference will be held virtually
September 14-16, 2021.

This conference, being held for the fifth time in 2021, seeks to provide three dynamic days of research-based best practices; information, tools, and resources framed by Georgia's ASYD Quality Standards; and opportunities for networking, collaboration, and partnership formation. All youth development and afterschool providers are invited to attend!

[More Information Coming Soon](#)



A Unified
Vision
to *Serve*
Georgia's
Youth

Georgia Afterschool
& Youth Development
Initiative

A collaboration between GSAN & GUIDE, Inc.

Sun Safety and Protection Tips for Children



Spending time outdoors is lots of fun, but remember to protect against the sun's rays. Everyone is at risk for sunburn. Children especially need to be protected from the sun's burning rays, since most sun damage occurs in childhood. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers these tips listed below to keep children safe in the sun.

- Apply about one ounce of sunscreen with at least a 15 SPF per child. Reapply sunscreen every two hours, or after water play or sweating. Remember it takes 30 minutes for sunscreen to become effective once applied.
- Infants under 6 months of age should be kept out of direct sunlight. Move babies to the shade under a tree, umbrella or stroller canopy. Babies should be dressed in lightweight clothing that covers their arms and legs, and use brimmed hats that shade the neck to prevent sunburn.
- Most of the sun's rays can come through the clouds on an overcast day; so use sun protection even on cloudy days.
- If a child gets sunburn that results in blistering, pain or fever, contact their pediatrician and parents immediately.
- Be sure to have an updated [Authorization to Dispense External Preparations](#) on file for each enrolled child (Required for Child Care Learning Centers Only).

[Click for More Information](#)

Interested?

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